

Sir Mark Rowley
Commissioner
Metropolitan Police
New Scotland Yard
Victoria Embankment
London
SW1A 2JL

June 2023

Dear Sir Mark,

Subject: Uxbridge Police Station's Future and Local Policing

We are writing to you about the importance of securing Uxbridge Police Station's future, as well as the need to boost policing resources to respond to local community priorities and concerns.

We understand the Met are currently considering their future estates strategy, thinking about the best use of their buildings in the coming years, and that this matter will eventually cross your desk to make crucial decisions about the future of police stations such as Uxbridge Police Station in Hillingdon.

Hillingdon is the second largest geographical borough in London, with challenging North-South public transport links. Uxbridge itself is a major population center in the borough, with the strongest bus and train links for access and is proximate to the local courts.

Uxbridge Station itself is a modern, purpose built police station, which serves the wider area and major commercial center in the borough and is able to house a large policing team and hopefully in future, a growing policing team.

We ask that as a minimum, Uxbridge Police Station is kept as a operational base for the response, neighborhood and Uxbridge town center policing teams in the borough, along with being a practical training base for trainee Police Officers.

Ideally, we would also ask that the strategy considers the benefits of fully reopening Uxbridge Police Station's now closed cells. Currently, there are regular reports of prisoners apprehended in Uxbridge have to be taken to cells in neighbouring boroughs, many miles away – wasting valuable officer time and creating unnecessary road journeys.

There are increasing concerns locally about issues such as increased vehicle crime, burglary and antisocial behavior. We understand that the Mayor of London has agreed to fund a 50 per cent more PCSOs in London reversing a decade of falling PCSO numbers caused by Government cuts. This will mean 500 more officers. We ask that a fair number of these additional officers will be based in Hillingdon and Uxbridge Station.

We look forward to hearing from you about how the Met will respond to the specific policing needs in Hillingdon.

Yours sincerely,

Danny Beales
Labour Candidate, Uxbridge & South Ruislip

Cllr Peter Curling
Leader, Hillingdon Labour Councillors